Preliminary Amendment of U.S. National Stage for International Application PCT/BR2002/000175 filed December 6, 2002

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 12-22 are currently pending in the instant application.

Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be entered in the specification. The amendments to the specification are of an editorial nature and do not enter new matter. The spelling of polyvinyl has been corrected. In addition, the viscosities of the composition prepared in the examples have been accorded their American notation as have the hardness measurements. Entry of the amendments to the specification is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to place them in a form for ready examination in the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The amendments to the claims are fully supported in the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter has been entered by amendment to the claims.

No amendment to the claims has been entered to overcome any prior art reference of which Applicants are aware.

Favorable consideration of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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